

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 PC-94 OMB-01 CIEP-03 DRC-01 /238 W

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R 221621Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9946

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABIDJAN 6808

EO11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, IV

SUBJECT: NEW IVORIAN SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
CLEMENT KAUL MELEDJE

REF: ABIDJAN 6275

1. CLEMENT KAUL MELEDJE, NEWLY APPOINTED SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, A SORT OF "JUNIOR MINISTER", RECEIVED ME FOR A COURTESY CALL ON AUGUST 20. HE TOOK OCCASION TO CONVEY CONDOLENCES OF MINISTER AND MINISTRY ON ASSASSINATION OF AMBASSADOR DAVIES (SEPTE). I TOOK OCCASION TO PUSH FOR APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET AND/OR FOREIGN MINISTER USHER FOR KHMER FOREIGN MINISTER KEUKY LIM (ALSO SEPTEL).

2. WE THEN DISCUSSED HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT. FOR BACKGROUND, MELEDJE HAD BEEN DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY, AFTER HAVING SERVED EARLIER AS DCM IN PARIS. HE COMES FROM DABOU, IMPORTANT TOWN ABOUT 40 KMS. OUTSIDE ABIDJAN, AND WAS RELIABLY REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN NAMED TO THIS NEWLY CREATED POST BECAUSE DABOU WAS NOT OTHERWISE REPRESENTED IN TOP ECHELONS OF GOIC. CABINET WAS NAMED JULY 24 AND MELEDJE COMPLAINED TO ME THAT, DESPITE OFFICIAL STATEMENTS THAT HE WOULD BE PUT IN CHARGE OF MULTILATERAL RELATIONS AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION, HE HAD NOT YET HAD OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY OR WITH FOREIGN MINISTER USHER OVER DE-

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TAILS OF HIS ASSIGNMENT. NEVERTHELESS, HE IS PREPARING FOR THIS

BROAD JOB, SEEKING NEW STAFF. HE HOPES VERY SOON TO BE BACK IN
TOUCH WITH ME FOR SUBSTANTIVE TOUR D'HORIZON OF U.S./IVORIAN
RELATIONS.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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